

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2379

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 146

BEIRUT FOR AGATT,HRTDO, COMATT

STATE PASS AID, AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, BTIO, SY

SUBJ: SYRIAN DESIRE TO PURCHASE AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT

1. DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ANIMAL BREEDING DEPARTMENT, KAMAL KANDALAFT MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, HAS REQUESTED URGENT EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN DETERMING INTEREST OF SPERRY NEW HOLLAND (DIV. OF SPERRY RAND CORP.), NEW HOLLAND, PENNA. 17557, IN SUPPLYING TO SYRIA BY MARCH 10, 1975, FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT:

A. 100 UNITS, SPERRY HOLLAND MOWER, MODEL NO. 912;

B. 50 UNITS, SPERRY HOLLAND BALER, MODEL NOS. 273, 276, 278
(PREFERABLY LATTER LARGER MODELS);

C. 100 UNITS, SPERRY HOLLAND WINDROWER;

D. 50 UNITS, TIP TRAILERS, BOTH SIDES AND BACKWARD
SUPPLIERS UNKNOWN.

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2. KANDALAFT REQUESTS INFO ON PRICES AND DELIVERY TIMES ON

THESE ITEMS. HE HAS BUDGETED FUNDS ALREADY FOR CASH PAYMENT. GIVEN CURRENT RAPID PROGRESS ON LARGE ANIMAL HUSBANDRY PROJECTS IN SYRIA, COUNTRY FACES CRISIS IN PLANTING, CULTIVATING, HARVESTING AND PROCESSING OF FEED STOCKS FOR THESE ANIMAL HUSBANDRY PROJECTS.

3. KANDALAFT ALSO REQUESTS INFORMATION ON FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

A. FEED/FODDER, DRYER/PELLET PLANT, CAPACITY 250,000 M.T. P.A., COST, CAPACITIES, ESTIMATED DELIVERY/CONSTRUCTION TIME IN FAR NORTHEAST SYRIA (HASAKE AREA). PLANT WOULD PROCESS BOTH GREEN AND DRY FODDER AS GREEN FODDER PROCESSED ONLY DURING ONE MONTH. PAYMENT TO BE NEGOTIATED WITH COMAPNIES MAKING OFFERS.

KANDALOFT AND OTHER SYRIAN EXPERTS HAVE SEEN AND BEEN IMPRESSED BY U.S.-SUPPLIED GREEN FODDER DRYING PLANTS IN ROMANIA, TWO JUST OUTSIDE BUCHAREST, BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN BUILT TWO OR THREE YEARS AGO, BUT U.S. SUPPLIER'S NAME UNKNOWN. (CAN BUCHAREST COMMENT ON THIS?).

B. LENTIL HARVESTERS, FOR USE ON LOW-TO-GROUND FODDER CROPS; NEED SPECIFICATIONS, PRICES, DELIVERY TIMES.

4. THIS COMMERCIAL TRADE OPPORTUNITY OVERLAPS SOMEWHAT WITH CURRENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SYRIAN OFFICIALS AND A.I.D. AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY INPUT EXPERTS ELLIOTT AND JENKINS. SHORT TIME REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY OF ITMS LISTED ABOVE IN PARA 1. PUTS THESE ITEMS OUTSIDE CONSIDERATION OF COMMODITY FINANCING BY PROPOSED A.I.D. LOAN. IMMEDIATE COMMERICAL OFFERS ARE REQUESTED IN THIS INSTANCE, WITH CASH PAYMENT ENVISAGED.

5. SPERRY HOLLAND'S RESPONSE CAN BE CABLED DIRECTLY TO:

MR. KAMAL KANDALAFT, DIRECTOR GENERAL
ANIMAL BREEDING DEPARTMENT
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRARIAN REFORM
DAMASCUS, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
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OR THROUGH DEPT. TO EMBASSY FOR DELIVERY TO KANDALAFT.

6. APPRECIATE PROMPT COMMERCE/AGRICULTURE/STATE ACTION AND RAPID INTERIM RESPONSE TO EMBASSY SO WE CAN INFORM KANDALAFT OF GENERAL AVAILABILITIES/DELIVERY TIMES, AND WHEN ACTUAL OFFERS CAN BE RECEIVED GIVEN TIGHT DELIVERY SCHEDULE WITH EQUIPMENT DESIRED IN SYRIA BY MARCH 10, 1975.

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